

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, the front surface of the keypad being in contact with an entirety of all back surfaces of the hard base, thereby preventing the entirety of all back surfaces of the hard base from being in contact with any member other than the keypad and in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claims.

Applicant's arguments, presented in the Interview of December 9, 2008, have been fully considered and are deemed persuasive.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (571) 272-2008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Renee Luebke can be reached on 571-272-2009. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Edwin A. Leon/
Primary Examiner
AU 2833